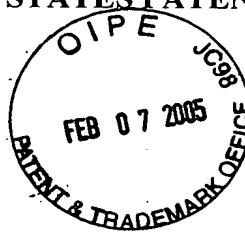


## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of  
Akira YONEOKA



Serial No.: 10/790,217

Group Art Unit: 3677

Filing Date: March 2, 2004

Examiner: Neill R. Wilson

For: JOINTING MEMBER FOR FIXING PANEL MEMBERS BY ONE-TOUCH  
OPERATION

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 through §1.99 and pursuant to applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, applicant respectfully brings the following documents cited in the Chinese Office Action (copy attached) and listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. A copy of the listed document is provided herewith for the convenience of the Examiner.

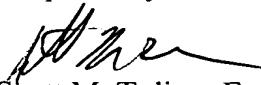
This citation does not constitute an admission that the reference is relevant or material to the claims. It is only cited as constituting related art of which the applicant is aware.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was the first citation of that item by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, which occurred not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

It is respectfully requested that the listed references be considered by the Examiner and formally made of record in this application.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

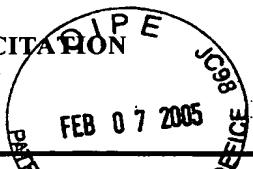
Respectfully submitted,

  
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**  
(Use several sheets if necessary)



Docket Number (Optional)  
**P21-163407M/NY**

Application Number  
**10/790,217**

Applicant(s)  
**Akira YONEOKA**

Filing Date  
**March 2, 2004**

Group Art Unit  
**3677**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER  | DATE            | NAME                 | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|-------------------|-----|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
|                   |     | <b>5,568,675</b> | <b>10/29/96</b> | <b>Asami, et al.</b> |       |          |                            |
|                   |     |                  |                 |                      |       |          |                            |
|                   |     |                  |                 |                      |       |          |                            |
|                   |     |                  |                 |                      |       |          |                            |
|                   |     |                  |                 |                      |       |          |                            |

**U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS**

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|-------------------|-----|-----------------|------|------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
|                   |     |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                   |     |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                   |     |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                   |     |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |
|                   |     |                 |      |      |       |          |                            |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

|  | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | Translation |    |
|--|-----|-----------------|------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
|  |     |                 |      |         |       |          | YES         | NO |
|  |     |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|  |     |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|  |     |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|  |     |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|  |     |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

Chinese Office Action dated December 3, 2004 with an English translation.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.